



cross talk

A MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN OF TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Sponsored by Systems Employee Association

SEPTEMBER, 1968

THE PREZ SEZ

By Doug Heydon (WB6WDS)

Well, it finally happened! As you can see above, the logo/title question has been resolved. The Executive Committee unanimously agreed at the last meeting that the logo designed by Ray Kirby and the title submitted by Don Schweitzer (WB6TES) fill the bill. Congratulations to both of you on a fine job.

Since we're approaching the last quarter of the year, it's time once again to give attention to selection of the officers for the next year. I have appointed a nominating committee made up of veterans: Herb Gleed (W6FQ) chairman, Bill McClellan (W6VB) and Al Lee (W6KQI). If you are interested in holding an office, or want to suggest names for consideration, call one of these stalwarts. Phone numbers:

Herb	-	52015
Bill	-	670-0579
Al	-	61824

Thanks to the patient efforts of Ed Thornley (WA6JHD) and Fred Reed (W6UMC), the towers have finally been painted. A crew finally got together on Saturday, 14 September to do the job. It could have been an impromptu executive committee meeting, since the workers included the president, vice-president, treasurer and trustee, ably assisted by Loren Disper (K6DD) and Bill Dews' two sons. Now, to get them on the roof!

Dates to mark on your calendar: (See Program Notes for particulars)

- Wednesday, 25 September, 12:00 noon - regular meeting, S/2464.
- Sunday, 29 September, 11:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M., Second Annual Family Picnic, Alondra Park.
- Wednesday, 16 October, 12:00 noon - Executive Committee meeting, R-4/1047.
- Friday, 22 November, evening - Second Annual Nominations and Awards Dinner.

Congratulations to Ernie Brelsford on his new call - WA6IGM. How about checking into SCN, Ernie? We can always use Santa Barbara traffic outlets, hi.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Doug Freeman (WA6AZW)

Since there was not a quorum present at the last general meeting, no official business was conducted. All items of old and new business will be held over until the next general meeting on September 25. John Richmond of IRC presented a brief talk on "The use of Semi-conductor Rectifiers."

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Ed Thornley (WA6JHD)

Balance on Hand - 15 August 1968 \$119.92

RECEIPTS

Door prize tickets	\$ 3.85
Total receipts	<u>3.85</u>

EXPENSES

Door prizes	\$ 5.01
Credit Union payment	<u>20.00</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$25.01</u>

Balance on Hand - 11 September 1968 \$ 98.76

Treasurer's Comments

On the 30th of September, the current quarter will end. At that time, we will be submitting our report to the Systems Employee's Association in order to obtain our quarterly allotment. Those members whose membership has expired by that date are respectfully urged to pay their dues promptly upon receipt of notice from the Treasurer. We always have a last minute hassle trying to determine who wants to renew. It's for the Club's benefit to have all members listed as current, so please respond promptly to your renewal notice.

Thanks to Mrs. Jane Court of the TRW Credit Union for donating to the Club a nice box of goodies left over from her recent sale. We got a dandy Collins Cow-pass Filter, a Dummy Load, a pair of heavy duty filter chokes and a small blower.

PROGRAM NOTES

By Arnie Conn (WB6VTQ)

The regular September meeting program feature will be a tour of the Metrology Laboratory courtesy of Johnny Rothrock (W6MYC). We will meet for a very short business meeting in Bldg. S/2464 prior to the tour.

On Sunday, September 29, our second annual Family Picnic will be held in Alondra Park. Bill Dews (K6AWO), chairman for this event, will have a flier out within a few days.

On Friday evening, November 22, we will have our second annual Nominations and Awards Dinner. Chairman Ed Thornley (WA6JHD) is making the arrangements and will have full particulars for the October issue of Cross Talk.

1968 FIELD DAY CRITIQUE

By Doug Freeman (WA6AZW)

I. EQUIPMENT

A. Antennas - Three hardware problems developed in the early stages of field day operations:

1. We found that the VSWR on some antennas prohibited their use on some or all bands, due to the fact that they had not been tested prior to set-up.
2. It was noted that the 2 HF Directional Antennas used, produced excellent results, however, even better results might have been obtained had we been able to rotate them.
3. The supporting masts were considered to be satisfactory and though they have been sold to individuals, it is anticipated that they will be available for use next year. However, considerable difficulty was experienced in attempting to erect these to a height greater than 40'.

Recommendations

1. Ensure that all antennas (privately or club owned) be tuned prior to transportation to the field day site.
2. Install all directional antennas so they can be easily rotated. It is not considered necessary to have rotators, though of course that would be desirable.
3. The best solution to the mast erection is probably to not attempt to put them higher than 40', but if additional height is desired, it is suggested that drills be held in advance to practice the erection of the taller antennas.

B. Transmitters - In general, the equipment used was quite satisfactory, although it was obvious that the transceivers were the way to go. It was felt by the CW ops that an Aux receiver for each CW station would be a help and also Aux receivers for the VHF Stations.

Recommendations

It is felt that we were hurt in our point total by the use of the Club Station Swan 500, which is a 250 watt rig, since I cannot believe that the 50 watts extra (above the 200 watt multiplier cutoff) made enough extra contacts to justify its use next year. Therefore, it is recommended that all rigs be kept below 200 watts, at least some of the CW rigs below 50 watts and the VHF rigs below 10 watts.

C. AC Power - No problems were encountered in this department. The AC generator borrowed from TRW was an outstanding piece of machinery. Contact Jim Baird, x51504.

Recommendations

1. Ensure that sufficient gas cans are available to service the generator.
2. Continue to use the smaller, portable generator for coffee making.

1968 FIELD DAY CRITIQUE Con'd

II. OPERATING

Considerable difficulty was encountered between the CW and SSB stations on the same bands. This is the one really unresolved problems and a good deal of effort will be required to ensure that it will be prevented next year. As a result of this, we were unable to keep 6 stations on the air during the entire period. It is believed that the planned use of 6 stations simultaneously, while ambitious, was not unrealistic, especially with the use of VHF. The VHF stations accounted for a very respectable 2,700 points, are considered to be a great asset. The pre-operation plan was to use 2 VHF and 4 HF stations during the daytime hours, concentrating the HF activity on the 10 and 15 meter bands as long as they remained productive and going to 20, 40 and 80 meters as necessary. As expected, the VHF activity died out around midnight and it was planned to put 6 rigs on HF at that time covering both the CW and SSB portions of 20, 40 and 80 meters. However, due to the aforementioned interference problem, this became impossible.

Recommendations

1. Investigate ways to eliminate the interference problem. If the same site is used next year, antennas might be located across the road for greater separation.
2. Assuming (1) above is solved, continue to use 6 rigs simultaneously.

III. FACILITIES

It had been hoped that at least 2 campers would have been available for use at the site. However, none were available and Carl Goss (WB6IEG) and crew did very well in planning, preparing and serving of food. We were definitely short of sleeping room, with station wagons the only really comfortable place to sleep. Sanitary facilities were a real problem and hopefully, improvements can be made next year. During the set-up period cold drinking water was in short supply.

Recommendations

1. A real effort should be made to secure the use of pickup/trailer campers.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING

While I felt it a real privilege to be the Field Day Committee Chairman, it is really too much for one to do. There was a four hour period during the small hours of the morning when only 2 rigs were on the air and no leadership around to call reliefops to get at least one more on the air. Also, there was considerable (hopefully friendly) rivalry between CW and SSB operators as to which mode/band to use. The only solution to this is to have a co-chairman awake at all times to make the necessary decisions. Another serious problem which did not come to light until after field day, was the logging. Logs were not kept accurately or neatly and for those who spent many hours deciphering them, they were a real headache.

1968 FIELD DAY CRITIQUE CON'D

Recommendations

1. Appoint co-chairman and committee heads (logs, rigs, site, power, facilities) well in advance (January, February).
2. Hold an all operators meeting prior to Field Day to explain operation of rigs, general plan of operation and logging procedure.

V. SUMMARY

The Field Day Operation is considered to be a success and though some mistakes were made, a lot of fun was had by all. I do hope that next year the entire planning process can begin earlier and we can have more commitments of participation earlier in the year. There was a real good turn-out and I look forward to next year with some anticipation.

AWARDS AND STUFF

By Fred Reed (W6UMC)

The Field Day Operation in June produced a total of 1600 contacts using the call W6VB/6. QSL cards have been obtained to commenate the operation and are presently being filled out by such fine writers as Joe Bellin (WB6GAO), Arnie Conn (WB6VTQ), Alan Davanzo (WB6DKR), Bill Dews (K6AWO), Bill Fisher (K6GZF), Herb Gleed (W6FQ), Doug Heydon (WB6WDS), Claude Mallott (W6NYC), Bill McClellan (W6VB) and Ed Thornley (WA6JHD). It is anticipated that all of the cards will be ready for mailing by the end of this month. One of the club's philosophies is to 100% QSL for each and every contact. This will help other amateurs to qualify for the TRW Systems ARC achievement awards, which will be off the press by the end of the month. To qualify for the award requires verification of contact with five member stations, so keep a record of those whom you do contact. Speaking of contacts, Art Bliss (K6TJD) is very desirous of contacting as many club members as possible. Art is the gentleman who does that excellent job of silver overprinting the club member QSL cards. So keep a bent ear out for him and when you do hear him, please give him a call. He normally operates 20 to 15 meter SSB with A Galaxy V Transceiver.

OSCAR NOTES

By George Peck (K8QAI)

All OSCAR gear has been moved to the vicinity of the shack. Any members interested in helping with the planning or construction of the satellite and ground station equipment please call George Peck on x65180 or drop a note at R1/2036.

MEMBERSHIPS

Welcome to new member George Field (K6ZCX) and to returning member Gerry Vellutini. Glad to have you both in the group.

BLIPS By Don Schweitzer (WB6TES)
IS OUR STATION A DOG?

In the Roaring Twenties a minstrel team called the Black Crows attained radio and recording fame with comedy bits:
"--Dat dog's father was pure Airedale-- his mother was just careless!"

Their interlocution gimmick was a simple question--which happens to be the motivation behind most radio amateurs.

"WHAT CAUSES DAT?"

Intellect seeks logical analysis

Conversely though, a saturation of information tends to reduce enthusiasm, producing an apathetic attitude.

Our club is largely a group of experts playing as amateurs. A chronic condition of lowered interest has developed.

But, we need not be discouraged.

In business, managers plan to combat inertia by progressive stimulation toward personnel rewards. Heavyweights with 6 ounce gloves and ring savvy.

We are Featherweight Division, but, we can win too.

Clearly, our goal, as a SEA Service Club, must be to welcome and sustain all personnel of the Novice and transitory Ham class until they reach a satisfactory level in our hobby. We renew ourselves thus.

WB6WPO is a convenient station away from home for any operating club member. Ideal for training and practice operations.

A little effort and cooperation can eliminate our problems of "if--someday-- etc."

Lets do it The Right Way. For example: The Treasurer should not be running a collection agency for delinquent dues.

Our Leader has spoken -73-

Translation from Hermosa Beach
IS WB6WPO K90?

Anyone can turn on, and it may be a good trip --or a bummer.

Our schtick is also our hang-up.

"WHY ARE WE UP TIGHT?"

Meditate, Stud.

If you get too cool, you may split.

Some heads drop in, then freak out. Tough.

No big thing.

The Establishment's Go-Go is "Sock it to 'em."

Even Tiny Tim found a groove!

Snap fingers for our teeny-keyers. Dig the reincarnation bit. Make the scene.

WB6WPO is an open pad. Hang in there

Let's do our thing, groop. Groop.

Turn on. Tune in. Deliver your bread.

Our Guru lays this on us. -ACID-

COMMERCIALS

George Peck (K8QAI) is now working part-time at Ham City Electronics, 16604 Hawthorne Blvd and promises good deals to WB6WPO members.

GENERAL NEWS From Don Etheredge (K6UMV)

FCC has denied petitions for removal of the 50 - 50.25 MHz frequency band from the incentive licensing provisions and for extensions of forms of "grandfathering" to higher grade licenses. The Commission also denied an old petition for transmission of wide band television in the 6 and 2 meter bands.

ARRL has proposed rules for a new 5 band DXCC (5BDXCC) award based on confirmed two-way communications with 100 different countries on each of 5 amateur radio bands. Details will be published in QST.

TRADING POST

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|---|--|---------|
| o | BC221 Frequency Meter with AC power supply | \$40.00 |
| | Bill Dews (K6AWO) x63606 | |
| o | 380B Electronic T-R Switch | \$12.00 |
| | Doug Heydon (WB6WDS) x53116 | |